

## ABSTRACT

Substances that inhibit the action of the members of the IL-1 $\beta$ /NF- $\kappa$ B pathway can be used for protecting and preserving  $\beta$ -cell mass and function in prediabetic and diabetic type 2 patients. Specifically, the present invention relates to the use of an Interleukin 1 receptor antagonist (IL-1Ra) and/or pyrrolidinedithiocarbamate (PDTC) for the treatment or

5 prophylaxis of type 2 diabetes, as well as a method for the treatment of type 2 diabetes.